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PATENT

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application of:	Michael Austin
Application No.:	09/966,686
Filed:	October 1, 2001
For:	A Method and Apparatus for Contracting, Loading or Crimping Self-Expanding and Balloon Expandable Stent Devices
Examiner:	Marc Jimenez
Group Art Unit:	3726

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Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
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Docket No.: S63.2-7405-US02

FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL LETTER

TO: Examiner Jimenez**DATE:** July 22, 2004**FACSIMILE NO.:** 703-872-9306**TIME:** _____**GROUP ART UNIT:** 3726**TOTAL NUMBER OF PAGES** (including cover letter): _____

Following please find a 7 page Amendment in addition to this 1 page Facsimile Transmittal Letter.

If a fee is required, Commissioner of Patents is hereby authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 22-0350 for any required fees. To the extent that any petition is required to consider this communication, please treat this as such a petition.

Respectfully Submitted,

VIDAS, ARRETT & STEINKRAUS, P.A.

Date: July 22, 2004

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office, Fax No. 703-872-9306, on July 22, 2004.

Signature: Rebecca M. Painschab
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